

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: April 17, 2017
	Agenda Item No. 38 Roll Call No. [_____] Communication No. <u>17-351</u> Submitted by: Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving an exception to the Procurement Ordinance competitive bidding requirements for good cause and approving procurement of furniture for the MacRae Park and the Ding Darling shelters from Design Within Reach.

SYNOPSIS:

Approve exception from the competitive bidding requirements for good cause shown, pursuant to Section 2-710(a) of the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines for the procurement of furniture for the MacRae Park shelter house from Design Within Reach (711 Canal Street 3rd floor Stamford, CT 06902) the product representative handling the Midwest territory for Loll Designs Inc. (1325 N 59th Avenue W, Duluth, MN 55807, Greg Benson, CEO).

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$52,661.84

Funding Source: \$15,661.84 - 2016-2017 CIP, Page Park – 12, Park Building Improvements, PK134, Being: in G.O. Bonds; and \$37,000 – 2016-2017 Operating Budget, Park and Recreation, Horticulture Maintenance, G001 PK200226, page 158.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Parks and Recreation Department proposes to purchase 104 chairs and 14 tables. Of the 104 chairs, 51 will be used at the Ding Darling Shelter to better accommodate repeated shelter rental requests. The remaining furnishings will be used at the MacRae Park Shelter, which is currently undergoing renovation

The renovation of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) era shelter in MacRae Park is converting an open-air shelter to an enclosed shelter with a rental space for up to 40 persons.

The justification for waiving the bidding procedure is as follows:

- By purchasing the same furniture as the Ding Darling Shelter House and the Jay Spence Shelter House, the furniture can be intermixed to facilitate any evolving permanent or temporary needs. The Parks and Recreation Department proposes spending \$52,661.84 to purchase 104 chairs and 14 tables. Of the 104 chairs, 51 will be used at the Ding Darling shelter to better accommodate repeated shelter rental requests. This example of rearranging furniture to meet

the needs of the shelter renters illustrates the benefits of matching furniture across all of the enclosed rental shelters. As the seating capacity for rental requests grows, purchasing the same furniture allows the Park and Recreation Department to better meet the public's demand for rental shelter seating.

- The furniture purchased from Loll Designs, Inc. for the Ding Darling Shelter House has exceeded our expectations. It has held up well to heavy use during the past four (4) years. The shelters with the new Loll furniture will account for over 200 rental events this year alone. The chairs are designed to stack making transportation among rental venues easier. The furniture is 100% recycled meeting the Department's Green design priorities and is in line with the City's overall goals for Green Sustainable Community and Pride in Community Assets.

For the Ding Darling Shelter House, Park and Recreation staff researched numerous furniture options using the following criteria:

- Design that complements the historic architecture of the facility;
- Durability that will hold up to heavy public rental use;
- Movability and flexibility to meet the varying needs of renters; and
- Sustainable material construction that meets the City's overall goals for Green Sustainable Community and Pride in Community Assets.

After an extensive search of commercial indoor and outdoor furniture manufacturers, staff determined that Loll Designs, Inc. was the only manufacturer that met all of these criteria. As a result of this research, staff recommends Loll's products for the following reasons:

- The furniture style is compatible and complementary to the historic architecture of the building; staff worked with the City Architect to ensure compatibility.
- The manufacturer has a variety of products (dining chairs, dining tables, dining benches, casual tables, lounge chairs, and lounge benches) with the same general styling options to choose from.
- The furniture is composed of 100% recycled high-density polyethylene (HDPE)—the furnishings contain material recycled from over 41,600 milk jugs. All fasteners are made with stainless steel.
- HDPE is nonporous and graffiti paint will not penetrate the exposed surfaces.
- All color and UV inhibitors are embedded into the plastic and materials will not harbor mold, decay, rust, peel, or splinter.
- The furniture requires only minimal maintenance through occasional washing with soap and a soft brush.
- Damaged portions of the furniture can be replaced without requiring purchase of an entire new unit, and the broken piece(s) can be recycled.

Finally, Loll Design products have a 3-year warranty, whereas many other manufacturers offer a 1-year warranty. Purchasing the same furniture for the MacRae Shelter allows the Park and Recreation department to maximize seating capacity while providing aesthetically pleasing and durable furniture.

Throughout research of furniture manufactures staff have not encountered any other products that meet all of the before mentioned criteria; therefore staff recommend waiving the competitive bidding process for this purchase.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 8, 2013

Roll Call Number: [13-0567](#)

Action: [Exception](#) to procurement ordinance competitive bidding requirements for good cause and approving procurement of furniture for the Birdland Park Shelter House from LOLL Designs Inc., \$60,112.96. ([Council Communication No. 13-158](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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